HOUSING, HUMAN SERVICES, AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

MINUTES

March 3, 2016

Council Chamber, 8th Floor

CONVENE: 1:30 p.m.

VOTING MEMBERS: PRESENT:

Councilmember Stacy Crivello, Chair

Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa, Vice-Chair Councilmember Robert Carroll (Out 1:56 p.m.)

Councilmember Don Couch

Councilmember Don S. Guzman (In 1:57 p.m.) Councilmember Michael P. Victorino (In 1:32 p.m.)

EXCUSED: VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Riki Hokama

STAFF:

Michele Yoshimura, Legislative Analyst Tammy M. Frias, Committee Secretary

Ella Alcon, Council Aide, Molokai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge) Denise Fernandez, Council Aide, Lanai Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

Clarita Balala, Committee Secretary, substituting at the Hana Council Office (via telephone conference bridge)

ADMIN.:

Mark R. Walker, Deputy Director, Department of Finance (Item HHT-18) Carol K. Reimann, Director, Department of Housing and Human Concerns

Clyde A. "Buddy" Almeida, Housing Administrator, Housing Division,

Department of Housing and Human Concerns (Item HHT-18)

Jamison, Grants Management Program Specialist, Curtis J. Management Division, Department of Housing and Human Concerns (Item HHT-14)

Jeffrey T. Ueoka, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation Counsel

PRESS:

Akaku--Maui County Community Television, Inc.

The meeting of the Housing, Human Services and CHAIR CRIVELLO: . . .(gavel). . . Transportation will now come to order. It is 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, 2016. Before we begin, may I please request that we all turn off or silence our cell phones or other noise making devices. At this time, I'd like to introduce our Committee voting Members. I'm Stacy Crivello, Chair of the Committee. With us is our Committee Vice-Chair Gladys Baisa.

March 3, 2016

VICE-CHAIR BAISA: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Good afternoon. Member Bob Carroll. Thank you for being here.

COUNCILMEMBER CARROLL: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Good afternoon. And Member Don Couch, thank you for being here.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Good afternoon, Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Excused this afternoon is, at this time, Member Don Guzman and Member Riki Hokama, and Member Mike Victorino. We don't have any non-voting committee members present but they are Elle Cochran and Mike White. At this time, I'd like to introduce our Administration representatives – the Director of Housing and Human Concerns Carol Reimann. Expecting to join us this afternoon is Deputy Finance Director Mark Walker. And of course, from the Corporation Counsel, we have the hard working Deputy Corporation Counsel Mr. Jeff Ueoka. And of course, our Committee Staff who I appreciate, our Committee Secretary is Tammy Frias, and Legislative Analyst Michele Yoshimura. Members, we have two items on the agenda today, so we'll get started with public testimony. We will acknowledge our interactive communication this afternoon with our District offices. Covering for in our Hana office is Clarita Balala.

MS. BALALA: Good afternoon, Chair. This is Clarita at the Hana office.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you for being with us. Oh, and joining us this afternoon is Councilmember Mike Victorino. Thank you for being here.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Good afternoon, Madam Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: From the Molokai District Office, Ella Alcon.

MS. ALCON: Good morning, Chair. This is Ella Alcon on Molokai. I mean good afternoon

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you, Ella. Good afternoon, Ella. And from Lanai, the Lanai District Office, Denise Fernandez.

MS. FERNANDEZ: Good afternoon, Chair. This is Denise Fernandez on Lanai.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you, ladies. At this time, we will be opening up for public testimony. For individuals who will be testifying in the Chamber, please sign up at the desk located in the 8th floor lobby just outside the Chamber door. If you will be testifying from the remote testimony locations specified on the meeting agenda, please sign up with the Council Staff at that location. Testimony will be limited to the item listed on the agenda today. Pursuant to the Rules of the Council, each testifier will be allowed to testify for up to three minutes per item with one minute to concluded, if

March 3, 2016

requested. When testifying please state your name and the name of any organization you are representing. At this time, I'd like to call the testifier.

MS. FRIAS: There are no testifiers in the Chamber, Madam Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. I'll check with our District Offices. Hana, any testifiers?

MS. BALALA: Chair, there is no one waiting to testify in the Hana Office.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Molokai, any testifiers?

MS. ALCON: There is no one here on Molokai waiting to testify.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Lanai District Office, do we have anyone there to testify?

MS. FERNANDEZ: There is no one waiting to testify at the Lanai Office.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Well, I guess we have no testifiers this afternoon. And, Members, I don't believe we have anybody in the gallery so if there are no objections, I will now close public testimony.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you.

ITEM HHT-18: RENTAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING FUND (MISC)

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Our first item on the agenda is HHT-18, Rental Housing Development The Committee is in receipt of the following: Miscellaneous Revolving Fund. Communication, dated May 28, 2015, from the County Clerk, reporting that on May 26, 2015, the Council referred the matter relating to the Rental Housing Development Revolving Fund. Correspondence dated February 24, 2016, from the Department of the Corporation Counsel, transmitting a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 3.34, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO THE RENTAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING FUND." The purpose of the proposed bill is to repeal Chapter 3.34, Maui County Code, and transfer the fund balance to the Affordable Housing Fund. The Committee may consider whether to recommend passage of the proposed bill on first reading, with or without revisions. The Committee may also consider the filing of the Miscellaneous Communication and other related action. So at this time, we have distributed two documents and we have ... do we have our Grants Manager from the Department with us?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Wrong item.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Oh, I'm sorry, wrong item. Thank you. Okay, so I'd like to ask if the . . . first of all, the Committee met on July 5, 2015, to discuss the purpose and use of this fund. In short, the Department stated that they have not used this fund and the

March 3, 2016

purpose of the fund can be covered by the Affordable Housing Fund. The current balance of the fund is approximately \$52,775. At this time, I'd like to receive comments from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns as well as comments from the Department of Finance, and then we'll open up the floor for discussion.

MR. ALMEIDA: Thank you, Chair, and good afternoon, Committee Members. My name is Buddy Almeida. I'm the Housing Administrator. As Chair Crivello mentioned, Housing has not utilized these funds since its inception. Everything has been granted from the Affordable Housing Fund so we are in recommendation of supporting this and closing this account and moving the funds to the Affordable Housing Fund. Thank you.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Any questions for the Department, Members?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Yes, sir.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you. Thank you for that recommendation. So this fund was established and for the purpose of, if I read correctly, rental housing development, was that why this fund was originally created?

MR. ALMEIDA: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, Member Victorino, for that question. Yes, the purpose of the Code was for rents received from any County projects to be deposited into this fund and the proceeds shall be used for the purpose of developing County rental housing projects. So that was its intent.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: It was the intent at that time. And since then we put in the affordable, I mean, . . . I'm sorry, moving over to the Affordable um --

MR. ALMEIDA: Housing Fund.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: --Housing Fund. Thank you. So, Madam Chair, I have no more questions. I can concur with this and wait for your recommendation.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Madam Chair. I am supportive of this. I just want to make sure that it is true that we can, if we put the stuff in the Affordable Housing Fund – a) we can use it for rental housing, if we need to?

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Mr. Ueoka?

MR. UEOKA: Thank you, Chair. Yes, Mr. Couch. Thanks.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Ms. Baisa?

March 3, 2016

- COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. I think this is a very good idea. I think putting it all together is good. It also cuts down on bookkeeping. So if we can make life easier and there are no harmful effects, I'm in support.
- CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Mr. Carroll, any comments or questions? Thank you. I have a couple questions for the Finance Department. Would you have any information as when was the last transaction to this fund?
- MR. WALKER: Good afternoon, Madam Chair, Committee Members. Mark Walker, Deputy Director of Finance. I do. As a matter of fact, the last transaction I see here was in August of 2000.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Okay. Thank you.

MR WALKER: That's how long ago.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Yes. Is the \$52,775 earmarked for any particular project or district?

MR. WALKER: Not to my knowledge.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Okay, good. No further discussion?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Recommendation?

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. The Chair will entertain a motion to recommend passage on first reading a proposed bill entitled "A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 3.34, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO THE RENTAL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT REVOLVING FUND," and filing of the Miscellaneous Communication.

VICE-CHAIR BAISA: Madam Chair, I so move.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Madam Chair, I second the motion.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. I have a motion by Vice-Chair Gladys Baisa, and seconded by Councilmember Mike Victorino. So all in favor?

COUNCILMEMBERS: Aye.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Any opposition? Thank you. So we have 5 yes; 2 excused – Mr. Hokama and Mr. Guzman. And the motion is carried. Thank you, Members.

March 3, 2016

VOTE: AYES:

Chair Crivello, Vice-Chair Baisa, and Councilmembers

Carroll, Couch, and Victorino.

NOES:

None.

EXC.:

Councilmembers Guzman and Hokama.

ABSENT:

None.

ABSTAIN:

None.

MOTION CARRIED

ACTION:

Recommending FIRST READING of bill and FILING of

communication.

ITEM HHT-14: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP GRANTS (MISC)

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Next on the agenda is HHT-14, Community Partnership Grants. The Committee is in receipt of a Miscellaneous Communication, dated May 28, 2015, from the County Clerk, reporting that on May 26, 2015, the Council referred the matter relating to community partnership grants. The Committee may discuss the procedures for evaluating proposals and awarding community partnership grants. The Committee may also consider the filing of the Miscellaneous Communication and other related action. Members, we have the Grants Manager or her representative from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns here with us this afternoon to discuss community partnership grants. Staff has distributed two documents. The first is from the Director providing a list of grants for Fiscal Year 2016 from the lineitem for Community Partnership Grants, and a second document provides a brief description of each grant. At this time, we'll open up the floor to hear from the Department of Housing and Human Concerns. Ms. Reimann?

MS. REIMANN: Aloha. Thank you, Chair, Members of the Committee. We had some questions asked to us, posed to us so we hope to answer them within our opening remarks. So the allocation for agencies funded through the DHHC Community Partnership Grants remains the same since the Grants Review Committee was abolished in 2013. So there have been no new added agencies or agencies deleted and, furthermore, the funding amounts have remained the same as well since 2013. So moving forward for Fiscal Year 2017, we are recommending to eliminate the category or replacing the category of Community Partnership Grants since there's no body to review them, and we are recommending to rename it as the Food, Shelter and Safety line-item category. So the Maui County Code, Chapter 3.36 governs the grant program process and we also have a set of Administrative Rules to provide additional guidelines. While 3.36 was changed to reflect the elimination of the Grants Review Committee, our Administrative Rules have not been updated. Our Department is currently reviewing these rules and will be suggesting revisions, specifically to remove

March 3, 2016

the references to the committee and we would also like to incorporate a better definition of the types of grants that our Department oversees ensuring that our grants pertain to our Department's mission, which is to support and empower our community to reach its fullest potential for personal well-being and self-reliance. So Chapter 3.36 really spells out the grant process and includes the definitions for soliciting applications, qualifying standards for applicants, conditions for grants, what is required in each application, required contracts, recipient reporting – there were a number of required reports that applicants must submit to ensure grants are being properly used, the monitoring and evaluation by our Department of every grant to ensure compliance as well as a report to the Mayor and Council within eight weeks after the end of each fiscal year. There's also a noncompliance section that outlines the process if a recipient is in violation.

In regards to soliciting grant applications, DHHC publishes this information via our County website and ads in the local newspaper. In addition, for the first time last year the Grants Management Division provided a series of grant workshops on Molokai, Maui, and Lanai where we explained the process. Notice of this workshop was promoted via a press release on the County website and within our ads in the Over a hundred attendees participated in these workshops. Management collects all . . . applicants receive and submits it to the Budget Office for inclusion in the Mayor's proposed budget. The majority of the grants are line-items specific to entities and, therefore, are at the discretion of Council. However, for the targeted funds such as affordable rental, homelessness, self-sufficiency, Early Childhood Programs, Substance Abuse, youth alcohol, and youth programs. For these targeted funds applicants are rated internally by our Department via a scoring system that's based on the purpose, goals, problem needs, addressing the problem, any collaborations, clear outcomes, effectiveness of the program, sustainability and their budget. Once the applicants are reviewed and scored, decisions are made on funding by our Department.

Unfortunately, Luz Domingo who is our Grants Manager is out sick today and Deputy Jan Shishido who is a little more familiar with the program is on vacation. So here with me today is Curtis Jamieson from our Grants Division. Curtis and I are pretty both new to the process but we are here today to try to answer any questions you may have. Thank you.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you, Director. Members, any questions from our Committee? Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair, and thank you folks from the Department for being here today to try and help us to do a good review of this. We've been talking about it for a long time. And I'm sure you're well aware of the fact that although we talk about it a lot, we really haven't really attacked it at all. And it was interesting to hear you say that when we pass that abolition of Community Partnership Grant Review Committee since 2013 things have pretty much remained the same. So am I to assume then that the list that you gave us of the grants that

March 3, 2016

were given out are these are the same people that got money in 2013 and they still have the same amount of money now?

MS. REIMANN: Yes, they are.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay.

MS. REIMANN: Nothing has changed since 2013.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I'm sorry?

MS. REIMANN: Nothing has changed since 2013.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. But since 2013, we have gone out and solicited projects?

MS. REIMANN: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I think that tells us that we need to do something 'cause if we're funding the same people and we're having a whole bunch of people applying, we might want to take a look at this unless we make it a criteria that so many years of experience or whatever gives you preference. You know, because there's always are new things and I'm not saying there's anything wrong with the _____ funding, okay, don't' get me wrong. I always wish that we had what I always used to call venture funding, and that venture funding would be a pile of money that Council sets aside for new projects so that somebody has a really brainy idea and says, oh, I figured how we're going to deal with kids that use that vapor or whatever and I need 50,000 to get it going and then you go to listen you say, gee, if I had fund all these existing programs that are so great and if I had to find 50,000 then I have to take it from somebody. So I've always wished that you know we had a little bit of a cushion somewhere so we could fund ventures that come up so we could try them. I don't know. What do you think about that?

MS. REIMANN: Thank you, Councilmember Baisa. We totally agree with you and that sentiment. The needs of our community are continually changing and, you know, we need to have a budget to be able to accommodate serving the needs of our community.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Also, you don't want to penalize programs that are doing really good.

MS. REIMANN: Right. We don't want to cut from other programs.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yeah. And so it becomes very competitive and very difficult so at least I know that our Chair is very aware of this. She's also from the nonprofit sector so we kind of understand how this works. But it's really sad that it becomes competitive and, you know, sometimes hurtful but you know with a certain and set amount of money that's what it takes us to. So I don't have any criticism on what you funded. I know you fund good programs. I know you try very hard to stay on them

March 3, 2016

and check performance. I have one more question and then I'll be quiet. What kind of a Grants Review Staff do you have at the moment?

MS. REIMANN: We have the Grants Review Manager Luz Domingo, and we have two Specialists.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: And you're overseeing how many or how many grants are they taking a look at?

MS. REIMANN: I think it's slightly over 80 grants.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Eighty grants.

MS. REIMANN: I can get a better, accurate figure for you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Wow! That's a lot of work. If you're going to do the site visits, if you're going to review documents, if you're going to attend programs, that's a pretty heavy workload. But, you know, you just can do what you can. There's only so many hours in the day. Is there any request for expansion coming up in the new budget?

MS. REIMANN: Not in our Grants Department, no.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay.

MS. REIMANN: They also have an Administrative person there as well.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: So they have an Administrative person on top of a Grants Manager?

MS. REIMANN: Grants Manager, well, and an Admin. Assistant --

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: An Admin. Assistant.

MS. REIMANN: --clerical. Somebody who always get paper and stuff.

MS. REIMANN: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Okay. Thank you very much. And thank you, Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Mr. Couch?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Thank you, Madam Chair. Just curious, you know, if you could explain again why they haven't changed? Is this because you guys don't want to change it or there's nothing in law that is forcing you guys to keep these. Is that right? Or is that because of the Budget ordinance?

March 3, 2016

- MS. REIMANN: I believe it's because we're confined to the budget. But also I'm saying recipients apply, have applied every year.
- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So the reason hasn't changed. It's just because you feel that these are the ones that are most deserving. I'm sure they're all deserving and it's just that you need to bump the money --

MS. REIMANN: And I think by . . .

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: --essentially.

- MS. REIMANN: I'm sorry, excuse me. I think by redefining the name, you know, food, safety and shelter, we can possibly expand to include others that fall into that category. We're going to try and re-categorize how we structure the grants.
- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: But it's the same amount of money unless you can convince the group to bump it up.
- MS. REIMANN: We would love to have more money. Thank you.
- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Out of all the ones that have applied for this specific grant, how many dollars have they, what's the total dollar amount that they've asked for?
- MS. REIMANN: One million seventy thousand.
- COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: No, no, no. That's how much we're giving actually one million one hundred ten, yeah, FY 16 based on this list \$1,110,845.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: That's the 2016 total.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Yeah.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: This is 2014, yeah, this list? The actual . . . the actual for 2014.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. Either way. I'm talking about you say you've got more people than this asking to apply. How much, what is the total dollar amount that they're asking for even though we're getting only a hundred and ten or a million?

MS. REIMANN: I'm sorry. Could you please repeat the question?

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay. You list 17 recipients of the grant, the Community Partnership Grants, right?

MS. REIMANN: Uh-huh.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: And you say there's more than that many people that are applying. What is the total amount of dollars that everybody is asking for? If you

March 3, 2016

added everybody and we can give everything that everybody is asking for, what is that amount?

MS. REIMANN: We don't have that number. But for the Community Partnership Grants the same people have applied over and over. We have other applicants in other areas perhaps but we don't have that list with us.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Okay.

MS. REIMANN: Maybe we can ask . . .

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: So it's only the same people over and over in the Community . .

MS. REIMANN: Correct.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Got you.

MS. REIMANN: For Community Partnership.

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Got you.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: There are other applicants but perhaps they don't qualify or did not make the list. Is this a competitive . . .

MS. REIMANN: They're funded in other areas. Not under the Community Partnership because this has been the same list year after year.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: I see.

MS. REIMANN: We haven't opened it up because there was no opportunity to.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Okay. Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you, Chair. Ms. Reimann mentioned that they had over 80 grants that they were overseeing, and if you look at this list that we were handed today, I think there's 14 or 15 agencies that are getting money. So, we gotta know that a lot of people are getting money someplace else cause that's how we wind up with 80. But I understand the question that Member Couch is trying to find out is what is the need? What are we being asked to give in justified in our applications that we can't fund --

COUNCILMEMBER COUCH: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --because of the limitations? That's the amount that he wants to know. And I think that's really relevant. I suspect that it's probably double what we give as a minimum from my being involved with this for a long time.

March 3, 2016

MS. REIMANN: Chair?

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Director?

MS. REIMANN: So, after we went through the grant process there are actually nine new grant applicants this year.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good.

MS. REIMANN: I don't have the funding amounts but we do know there are nine new entities.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: In addition to this existing list?

MS. REIMANN: Correct. Outside out of this list.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Okay. Mr. Victorino, any comments or questions from you?

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: I'd be curious to find out the total amount of requests also. And many of these that are listed here, Madam Chair, you and I both know have been around like Ms. Baisa mentioned, and have been doing a great job for many years in this community. So if we can find more money for what you called your exploratory or your, you know, group that come in and may want to do something but we don't have any track record to give them an opportunity to at least get out there and start and try for one or two more three years and then evaluate, I'd be supportive of that idea. I would like give more to our community groups whenever and wherever possible. You know, I'm one of those that feel that what they do helps this community the way it is. That's a lot better off than if we didn't do this on top of everything else. Those who are the naysayers and say we waste money, let me tell you, dream of a community that did not have this monies and did not take care of their needy, and you would have a nightmare of a community. Thank you, Madam Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you, Mr. Victorino. I guess . . . I would like to ask two questions. How do you measure the outcome of the grant or grants? Is there a process to measure the outcomes? Is that something that comes in with quarterly reports or year-end reports? Can you kind of explain that?

MR. JAMISON: Thank you. I'm Curtis Jamison. I'm a Grants Specialist. So each grant we go through a process of determining their outcomes and each quarter they report their outcomes based upon numbers of people served. Also, depending on the nature of the program then they would delineate some of those outcomes and outputs that they devote the services. We're trying to move more towards them actually finding ways to measure and monitor the impact that they have on the population that they're serving so that's all part of the grant and the contract. We go through that every quarter we get the reports.

March 3, 2016

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. At this time, I'd like to recognize Councilmember Don Guzman for joining us.

COUNCILMEMBER GUZMAN: Thank you, Chair. I apologize for my tardiness.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Also, in regards to this list, I think you mentioned in your introduction, Director Reimann, about respective applications for line-items specific to use and you're considering or your Department is considering to change the heading from Community Partnership Grants. What . . . do you have like a Substance Abuse Grant, Homeless Grant, Affordable Housing Grant, Youth, do you have separation for youth or other kinds of specifics? Do you suppose there can be any consideration to propose or to look at specific line items because it appears as though these are the same people or entities that receive grants? So if we say like if there's an entity for homeless resource centers, is there such a thing as having it line-item under that specific heading? Is that possible? Would that be a consideration? Would that be easier to monitor instead of jumping from one . . . go with specific headings and like you mentioned earlier specific to the use of the grants?

MS. REIMANN: Yes, that's an excellent idea and that would be the direction that we would like to move in so that way we know that each category or need within our community is satisfied and that way we don't have, you know, multiple grants coming in different areas. It just gets confusing that way. If we can head all the substance abuse under one thing, all the youth programs, and etc. that would make our lives easier.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: I think so. Ms. Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. In the Budget we have some pots of money in addition to the Community Partnership Grants, and we have like Substance Abuse Grants we have a line-item and that's divvied among agencies that apply for that. We have youth grants that we give to the youth centers and those kinds of programs and we could take that Community Partnership amount and kind of divvy it up among, you know, more pots and it would be itemized for that use. And once you determine, you know, what those needs are and I know it's an incredible job to try to determine needs and then set priorities because you cannot meet all the needs so you're gonna have to go for the big ones. And the question I wanted to ask you is you mentioned in the beginning that you were going to change the name of this, what were you going to change it to?

MS. REIMANN: Food, Safety, and Shelter.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Food, Safety, and Shelter.

MS. REIMANN: We have ideas for other categories that we would like to define as well.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I see. If you were to take this and put it back, I mean, just leave it in one lump I can buy into that. But if you're going to divvy it up, I think you're going to need more categories because you're missing a whole bunch.

March 3, 2016

MS. REIMANN: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yeah, okay. All right.

MS. REIMANN: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good idea, Chair.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: So, perhaps that's something that you folks can look into and if it's reorg you know, you don't have that many Grant Specialists in your Department so. And then it becomes since these are . . . you know, if I look at . . . because I'm very familiar with the Molokai Grants, I would know and support definitely what they're doing. And it's specifically for that particular item. And even if we look at the homeless resource centers, we also look at that as important needs and specifics, then it doesn't have to be so competitive in the partnership side but more to base it on outcomes and review and, you know, site visits and what the expectations are from your Department or your Grants Department in accordance to their grant application I think is a value.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: One more thing?

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Thank you very much, Chair. One more thing that we brought up as you were talking about divvying up money and I had used the word and I remember that I had wanted to ask. You know, for many, many years and of course I've lost track of a lot of this now that I've been on the Council but it comes back very quickly is, you know, this awarding of grants is often based on need. And what we want to meet in our community, of course, is the most pressing needs.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: And so that requires a survey, and I don't know when the last needs assessment was done but I can tell you from history that many of the ones we did were not worth the paper they were written on because they did not reflect Maui's needs. And the problem is we hired a professional surveying people and they were on the phone asking people in Kapalua what the needs are and people in Wailea and anybody, you know, can answer because it's random but they really don't know. They don't understand about poor people and what their needs are. And so we got funny stuff back. So I kind of feel like it would be great to have a survey that worked to help you because it's a tool that you use in making your choices because when you come to us and you say, well, I've decided that it's this, this, and this, and we're going to say, no, I don't think so not where I live, that's not what the people need there or the people that I know. So you really want a good needs survey but it has to be structured so that it gives you the information you want. If you're going to do social service needs, you know, you're going to look in certain places with people who know

March 3, 2016

what they're talking about. So I just wanted to bring that up because it does help the Department in determining priorities and where you put your money.

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Members, any more comments or questions for the Department or just on behalf of our Committee? Well, we've just gone through a very short meeting but quite informative so I would hope that the Department would do further, look further into different approaches in line items if it's so called and specific items and specific use I guess. And, hopefully, if something is reorg to do that way it can be better applied for your Grants Specialist. So, Members, without objections, I would like to defer this matter.

COUNCILMEMBERS: No objections.

COUNCILMEMBERS VOICED NO OBJECTIONS (excused: RC, RH).

CHAIR CRIVELLO: Thank you. Members, we have completed today's agenda. I'd like to thank the representatives from the Administration and the Department of the Corporation Counsel for their participation. And, Members, thank you for being here this afternoon. I'd also like to thank Tammy Frias and Michele Yoshimura for their work. At this time, the March 3rd, 2016 meeting of the Housing, Human Services, and Transportation Committee is now adjourned. Thank you. . . . (gavel). . .

ACTION: DEFER pending further discussion.

ADJOURN: 2:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

STACY CRIVELLO, Chair Housing, Human Services, and Transportation Committee

hht:min:160303

Transcribed by: Jo-Ann Sato